

optic atrophy? Ans. It may be of the utmost value as it is introducing the medicine in the place where the greatest amount of activity of the spirochetes is being shown.

Dr. Swetnam; Does one form of spirochetes protect against the other? Ans. Yes, apparently.

Dr. Ide: What is the value of anti-gonococcic serum in gonorrheal ophthalmia and iritis? Ans. Dr. Hektoen's article in the last Journal of the American Medical Association expresses my views. It acts probably by stimulating the plastic exudate. I think vaccines are of some value in antrum infections, etc., but they are not of as much value as cures as they are as immunizing agents. You must have free drainage first in sinus infections. The vaccine undoubtedly produces a shock to the system and so liberating the antibodies they have been trained to make and throw them off into the circulation.

Dr. Detling reported a case of tobacco amblyopia with classical scotoma. This man smoked a cigarette every half hour and took a quart of whiskey a week. Vision is improving after cutting off the whiskey and tobacco.

C. G. STIVERS, M. D., Secretary.

BOOK REVIEWS

Those About Trench. By Edwin Herbert Lewis. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1916.

The plot of this book is interesting, but it is rather slow reading because of the lengthy way the different dialects and the philosophy of each character is treated. The story, while written around doctors, deals more with war and revolution than with medicine.

H. A.

Diagnostic Methods. A Guide for History Taking, etc. By Herbert Thomas Brooks, A. B., M. D., etc., 3rd edition, revised and re-written. St. Louis. C. V. Mosby & Company, 1916. Price \$1.00.

The preface of this little book disarms very obvious criticism of such a work by saying, "This book is intended for medical students, hospital internes and physicians, who have a limited amount of time, only, to give to laboratory work." It certainly meets no wider field and it is open to question whether there is need of this manual in addition to several excellent manuals already available. In the very restricted field to which the author limits it, criticism might be directed toward including "practical" instructions for performing the Wassermann reaction and complement fixation test for gonorrhea, as also toward the discussion of tuberculin diagnosis. An outline of history-taking and physical examination seems hardly necessary beyond medical school days, and if a routine model is to be suggested, the forms given in this book are certainly susceptible of improvement.

A. C. R.

Candy Medication. By Bernard Fantus, M. D., St. Louis. Mosby Company, 1915. Price \$1.00.

Practically all children object to anything in the form of medicine, no matter how palatable it may be, and recognizing this fact, the author of this small book tries to show the physician how he can give his medicine disguised as candy. The first part of the book is perhaps more useful to the pharmacist than the physician, as it gives directions for making the chocolate tablets containing the drugs. The second part of the book gives a number of formulae which will prove interesting to the practising physician, as they show that many drugs can be given in this masque and palatable form. There are already on the market a number of medicated candies, but the physician frequently desires to give his own particular mixture in his own proportions,

and the author's idea is that these can then be prepared extemporaneously. The main difficulty is that the ordinary pharmacist has some trouble in making the tablet with any of the hand machines now on the market, and of course it would be out of the question to prescribe two or three hundred tablets at one time. However, this seems to be a big step in the right direction, and it is hoped that many physicians will look over this book and that it will bear good fruit. F. L.

Sexual Impotence. By Victor G. Vecki, M. D., Consulting Genito-Urinary Surgeon to the Mt. Zion Hospital, San Francisco. Fifth edition, enlarged. 12mo. of 405 pages. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1915. Cloth, \$2.25 net.

Vecki's book on sexual impotence has proved its value to the profession during almost three decades and has become one of our standard works on that interesting, but generally neglected, subject. The book, as presented to us now in its fifth edition, contains the whole literature up to date and, thus, comprises everything of scientific note connected with the physiology, pathology and treatment of impotence. The book is pervaded by a tone of hopefulness and optimism, and the author has succeeded in instilling into his literary offspring his own genial and buoyant personality. The style is graceful and clear, and the perusal of the book, aside from being profitable and instructive, is delightful and attractive. The pages, containing the author's personal views and experiences on excess in venery, masturbation, spermatorrhoea, etc., should be read by every physician, who wishes to instruct himself upon these intricate subjects. The author's views are always sane, sensible and moderate, and they are, above all, fearlessly true. The book will be found a most valuable addition to the practitioner's working library. M. K.

A Text-Book of Fractures and Dislocations, With Special Reference to Their Pathology, Diagnosis and Treatment. By Kellogg Speed, S. B., M. D., F. A. C. S., Associate in Surgery, Northwestern University Medical School; Associate Surgeon, Mercy Hospital; Attending Surgeon, Cook County and Provident Hospitals, Chicago, Octavo, 888 pages, with 656 engravings. Cloth, \$6.00 net. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York, 1916.

The list of text books on Fractures and Dislocations is already fairly complete. A few new things are reported. The statistical study is based on a series of cases that has not appeared in the other texts. Over 11,000 cases seen in Cook County Hospital are here reported. In addition to his own observation, the author has made frequent reference to the literature on the subject.

The author deserves considerable credit for the skillful way in which he presents the contradictory ideas which prevail at the present time concerning the regeneration of bone. He begins the subject with the following sentence "How bone grows is an undecided point in pathology." An attempt is made to harmonize the various theories and experimental data with the clinical findings.

The pathology of fractures has been emphasized as a basis for interpreting the fracture. This includes some of the more recent ideas concerning mechanism of fractures.

The treatment is given for fracture in general, as well as the detailed treatment of each particular kind of lesion. Each year adds to the list of open operations, so the author is able to make valuable comparisons between the open and closed methods.

The book is written in a pleasing style. The illustrations are good and they are well chosen. It is a very desirable book for the use of students.

J. P. P.